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size on most maps. The deflection of the Red river by the raft to the northeast side of its flood plain, and the resulting development of rapids, not yet graded, where it turns by a new course into the Mississippi flood-plain are items worth mention.

The lakes on the tributaries of the Danube near its mouth have, like those lateral to the Red river of Louisiana, been explained as due to aggradation of the main-river flood-plain. In view of the above restatement of the problem of the Red river lakes, that of the Danube lakes also may require a new interpretation.

W. M. D.

#### THE BICENTENARY OF LINNÆUS

THE trustees of the British Museum have deputed one of their officers, Dr. F. A. Bather, assistant keeper of the geological department, to represent the museum at the celebrations in Sweden of the bicentenary of the birth of Linnæus. Dr. Bather has been instructed to present two addresses to the University of Upsala and the Swedish Academy of Sciences, the former of which reads as follows:

The British Museum (Natural History), London.  
To the Royal University of Upsala.

It is with feelings of peculiar indebtedness that the Board of Trustees of the British Museum desires on this occasion to greet and congratulate the University of Linnæus.

In January, 1758, was published the tenth edition of the 'Systema Naturæ,' the edition from which the zoologists of the world now date the technical nomenclature of animals. In January, 1759, the British Museum was first opened to the public, and its Natural History Departments began the systematic study of the living and extinct animals and plants, taking for their guidance the works of Linnæus, and for their teacher his favorite pupil, Daniel Charles Solander.

By the acquisition of the Banksian Herbarium and Library, already brought to such perfection of arrangement by Solander and Jonas Dryander, the British Museum became the repository of many plants described by Linnæus, notably the originals of the celebrated 'Hortus Cliffortianus,' as well as of valuable manuscripts and books connected with the great Swede.

Desiring, therefore, to share in your celebration of one to whom the British Museum owes so much, the Trustees beg to join with this letter 'A Cata-

logue of the Works of Linnæus Preserved in the Libraries of the British Museum,' which they have had specially printed in honor of this occasion, and they have appointed as their delegate to present the same one of their officers, Dr. Francis Arthur Bather, M.A.Oxon, Assistant Keeper of the Geological Department.

May the world-wide fame of Linnæus and the fortune of the ancient University of Upsala ever endure and increase to the advancement of learning and the benefit of mankind!

EDWIN RAY LANKESTER,

Director

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),  
May 11

#### SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS

M. DE LAPPARENT, professor of mineralogy and geology at Paris, has been elected permanent secretary of the Paris Academy of Sciences in succession to the late M. Berthelot.

THE senate of the University of Toronto has conferred the degree of LL.D., on Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, of Philadelphia.

At the recent commencement of the Jefferson Medical College, of Philadelphia, the honorary degree of doctor of laws was conferred upon George Sumner Huntington, M.D., ScD., professor of anatomy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Professor Huntington delivered an address on 'Modern advances in the teaching of anatomy and other medical sciences.'

PROFESSOR ROLLA C. CARPENTER, who holds the chair of experimental engineering at Cornell University, has been given the degree of doctor of laws by the University of Michigan.

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY has conferred the doctorate of laws on Dr. Joseph D. Bryant, of New York City, retiring president of the American Medical Association; on Charles W. Hunt, New York City, secretary of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and on Professor George F. Swain, professor of civil engineering of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY, K.C.B., has received the Order of Commendatore della Corona d'Italia from the King of Italy.